



## Face Covering Fact Sheet – When Do I Need to Wear One?

### Why does keeping myself and others healthy include wearing a face covering?

According to County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health (County Public Health), our best community and individual defense against COVID-19 is to wash our hands frequently, avoid touching our eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands, avoid being around sick people and practicing physical distancing, especially by staying at home.

Face coverings are not a replacement for these evidence-based strategies for slowing the spread of disease; they are an additional tool that can protect others from possible exposure to respiratory droplets that may come from our mouth when we talk, sneeze or cough.

### What is a face covering?

A face covering can be made of cloth material and be as simple as tying a bandana or scarf across your nose and mouth; or it can be made with cloth to resemble a surgical mask. It must cover over your nose and mouth to be effective. County Public Health is discouraging people from using N95 respirators and surgical masks used by healthcare providers, so as not to negatively affect necessary supplies for essential workers.

### When do I have to wear a face covering?

Per the Los Angeles County Public Health Officer [Order](#), all individuals in Burbank are required to wear a cloth face covering over both the nose and mouth whenever they leave their place of residence and are or can be in contact with or walking near or past others who are non-household members in both public and private places, whether indoors or outdoors. People living in Burbank are under the jurisdiction of Los Angeles County Public Health and must comply with their County of Los Angeles Health Officer Order. You can find all the orders on our [website](#).

The LA County Department of Public Health [Guidance Documents](#) requires you to wear a face covering:

- When entering or waiting in line for any business, restaurant or retail establishment or when you are working at any such business and your duties require contact with the public or within six feet of your co-workers.;
- When waiting for or riding public transit or rideshare services;
- When at the outdoor gym or fitness space, except when in the outdoor swimming pool;
- When at the tennis and pickleball courts, and golf course;
- When at the BMX/Skate park;

## **Does this mean I need to wear a face covering every time I leave my home?**

The short answer is yes. The long answer is more nuanced, though. You should always have a face covering with you and put it on if you are about to encounter someone who is not a part of your household.

## **When don't I have to wear a face covering?**

County Public Health has specific [guidance documents](#) for engaging in certain outdoor activities and with business sectors, which have varying rules for wearing a face covering. Examples follow:

**Outdoor Restaurants** – Customers dining at outdoor restaurants must wear face coverings upon entry to the facility, when walking anywhere in the facility, and using the restrooms. The customer may remove the face covering while seated at the table and eating and/or drinking.

**Trails** - Trail users over the age of two need a face covering at the trailhead/parking lots and on any trails where there are other groups of people nearby. But, for the most part, if there are only members of your household with you; you are not required to have your face cover on your face. It should be readily available to put on if you pass by someone else on the trail.

*In Burbank, if you are on Chandler Bike Path and there are other people on the path, you should have your face covering on.*

**Equestrian Centers** - Face coverings are required at all times while in the common areas, including parking lots and stables. Face coverings **are not** required during riding so long as physical distancing of six feet of separation is maintained when riding with others not in your household.

## **Does everyone have to comply with the face covering part of the Order?**

Infants and children under the age of two should not wear face coverings. Those between the ages of two and eight should use them under adult supervision to ensure that the child can breathe safely and to avoid choking or suffocation. Children with breathing problems should not wear a face covering. Face coverings should not be used by anyone who has trouble breathing or is unable to remove the face covering without assistance. Those instructed not to wear a cloth face covering by a medical provider are also exempt from wearing one.

Individuals who are exempt from wearing a face covering due to a medical condition and who are employed in a job involving regular contact with others must wear an alternative such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge.

## **Do I need to wash my face covering?**

According to County Public Health, it is a good idea to wash your cloth face covering frequently, ideally after each use, or at least daily.

## **Is Burbank enforcing face coverings?**

While the Los Angeles County Public Health orders and City of Burbank's emergency orders are enforceable by the Burbank Police Department and Code Enforcement, Burbank's primary focus is to gain community compliance through education. To report a concern that a business is not in compliance with the County of Los Angeles Health Officer Order, contact the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health at 888-700-9955 or by emailing [EHMail@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:EHMail@ph.lacounty.gov).